

The Birth Pangs of Calvary (Mark 10:32-34)

Proposition: Often times, when I preach, I attempt to give you spiritual truth that you apply to your life and pursuit of Christ and although there will be some of that sprinkled throughout the message, I mainly want you just to look at Him. Look at Jesus, look at our Saviour.

- I. **Watch with me His Solitude** (Vs. 32)
 - A. The Solitude of His Path (Vs. 32a)
 - B. The Solitude of His Person (Vs. 32b)
 - C. The Solitude of His Prophecy (Vs. 32e)
- II. **Witness with me His Strength** (Vs. 33)
 - A. Strength Before His Confinement (Vs. 33a-c, e)
 - B. Strength Before His Condemnation (Vs. 33d)
- III. **Weep with me at His Suffering** (Vs. 34)
 - A. Suffering the Humiliation of His Mind (Vs. 34a,c)
 - B. Suffering the Hurt of His Body (Vs. b)
 - C. Suffering the Halt of His Life (Vs. d)
- IV. **Wonder with me at His Success** (Vs. 32e)
 - A. The Success of His Prediction (Vs. 32e)
 - B. The Success of His Propitiation (Vs. 32e)

The Birth Pangs of Calvary (MK 10: 32-34)

You mothers here today would readily identify with my title. You know what birth pangs feel like. As the hour of birth approaches the sharp pains of a contracting womb get closer & closer together. I

can imagine what may be going thru the mind. Thoughts of the excruciating pain ahead causes doubt and anxiety. But quickly behind that thought of the joy of your new arrival quicken your expectation. Here in our text we encounter a third contraction birth pang of the approaching cross of Calvary. In the midst of this birth pang, Jesus yields visions of the coming birth of redemption price and also a glimpse into the joy of redemption from

I. Watch w/me His Solitude^{32a} You wouldn't think that a man that had 12 devoted followers with him 24/7 would appear to be alone yet

A. Solitude of His Path - Notice this road that Jesus is walking. It is a road leading to Jerusalem. Up until now, Jesus had not alluded to the place of His death, but in the next verse he would reveal that is death lie in the path ahead. Yet he walks this lonely

path of death as Is 50: 7 says: For the Lord
B. Solitude of His Person^{32b} Jesus was some distance ahead of His disciples. Leading to what they were sure to be a difficult if not

imagine them hoping Jesus would turn to the left or right and detour around Jerusalem, if it were up to them, they would be headed the other way. Jesus was the solitary driving force in the death march ^{to Jerusalem}.

C. Solitude of His Prophecy - 3de "He took them," the word took does not mean he jerked them to the side. it means to receive near. He assembled himself with them drew near and began to tell them straight forward exactly what would happen ahead of them. He was the only one who prophetically knew what was going on. ⁽³⁾ Look at Him.

II. Witness w/ me His Strength - Altho he is the Lamb of God, yet he is also the Lion of Judah. ⁽⁴⁾ The prophetic words of Jesus are enough to make the strongest of us run.

A. Strength before Confinement - Most men when faced with confinement flee from it or do their best with legal wrangling to avoid it. But Here is Jesus saying, at the end of this path I'll be taken into confinement. Taken into confinement by the very ones who were taken counsel in order to kill Jesus. And confined by the gentiles. Placed in the hands of vicious Roman guards who ⁽⁵⁾ counted it their joy to degot.

B. Strength before ⁽⁶⁾Condemnation - He would also be condemned. He would be declared guilty, in violation of the very laws that is penned in stone for

1) ..redemption's procurement. Often times, when I preach, I attempt to give you spiritual truth that you apply to your life and pursuit of Christ and although there will be some of that sprinkled throughout the message, I mainly want you just to look at Him. Look at Jesus, look at our Saviour. First of all I want you to...

2) Isaiah 50:7 For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed.

3) ...Look at Him. Yes we can glean out of this text that there is a cross to bare, yes there is sorrow and heart ache that lay ahead and yet we should face it even it alone and trust that God is with us. But look at Him! The only lamb of God. Meek and mild being led alone to the sacrificial slaughter for you and I.

4) ...of us to run for cover. But not Him.

5) ...their joy to degrade and destroy every Hebrew that occasion granted them? Willingly he gave himself for us.

1) ...strength! Isaiah 53:3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: Isaiah 53:7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. I know we can glean from Christ here strength to suffer what ever path of suffering that best glorifies God. But look at Him. He was condemned for me.

2) ...A transfer of defilement. As the pang of Calvary hits in full force, let me remind you, that each teasing, taunting gesture endured by the Lord Jesus, was meant for you. Each drop of spittle that ran down the face of Christ, had your name on it. This humiliation is the humiliation that you and I should have experienced, yet we stand aside and see him endure such contradiction of sinners.

3) ...lashes of judgment belonged to me, for my rebellion, for my transgression, for my wicked heart. And yet the lashes that were meant for my were absorbed by the body of a substitute that loves me and gave Himself for me!

Moses on Mt Sinai. I have after read and heard people refer to children as innocent. But if ever there was one that would be the very definition of innocence it would be this Galilean carpenter walking down the road to Jerusalem. ¹

III. Weep w/ me at His Suffering - Although Jesus has on two other occasions referred to his death, here he unveils the horror of that death.

A. Suffering the Humiliation of the Mind - The word mock has the implication of hitting and slapping as a boy would to, to make sport of. The humiliating tortuous games of a soldier can be found in crucifixion account. They spit on Him. One of the most degrading things to do to a person in any culture is to then transfer defilement ²

B. Suffering the Hurt of the Body - "and shall scourge". It sounds so easy and painless to say. But contained in these three words is a pain and agony that cannot be fathomed. The cut of a tall flogging the body blow after blow ripping flesh and muscle every strand. Those lashes of Judg ³

C. Suffering the Hault of Life -

"and shall kill Him" In the OT sacrifices were not simply head and set free to recover to pay for sin. No the animal was killed, gruesomely dissected and offered to God. It would ⁴

upon the words of His carpenter. He died. Not sure

IV. Wonder w/me at His Success - As the late Paul Harvey would say the last 8 words of verse # 34 is the rest of the story. The resurrection of Christ.

A. Success of His Prediction - In the midst of all the horror and death of Jesus prediction, the disciple continually missed the promise of His resurrection. It was not until after his resurrection that they remembered his words. Jesus was the only man to predict his own death but his resurrection as well. There have been a lot of Prediction by men claiming to be sure of a fact that were wrong. Jesus has proved to be ^{the} one who

B. Success of His Propitiation - Jesus Christ resurrection is the proof positive of God's acceptance of the redemption price. Heb 9:12 Neither by the blood. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the assurance that the sin debt that you and I owed to the holiness of God is paid in full. Up! Up from the Grave he arose, with a mighty trumpet blast. He arose the victor.

V. Closing - Jesus has done and said a lot in the book of Mark. But don't miss where this account is leading us. To a bloody hillside called Calvary and a horrendous empty tomb. Did you see Him today?

1) ...not swooned or passed out. He died. The wages of sin is death. Psychological torture was agonizing, physical torture was excruciating, but death was the ultimated price for sin!

2) ...proved to be the prophet of God in that all of His predictions have come to pass. Even the ones that seem out of the realm of mortal man's ability. Proving Him to be God of very God!

3) Hebrews 9:12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

4) ...He arose a Victor from the dark domain, And He lives forever, with His saints to reign. He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!
